

THE CHAMPION

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No. 26

FROM WASHINGTON

REGULAR CORRESPONDENT TALKS POLITICS

Washington is much elated over nomination of Secretary Taft to the Presidency on the Republican ticket. The Secretary has friends in this city who are elated with his success and it is generally conceded that the Republican party has nominated the strongest man; one in whom Republicans will be glad to see the qualities that are most desired in public men, and one whom Democrats will find not a deal to criticize. It is now expected that the lesson of the Chicago Convention should not be forgotten in Denver. The Republicans are being vigorously among themselves, but at the crucial time they are together and they never for a moment forgot that their chief was not among themselves, but in the opposition. Above all else they desired success. It is declared that if the Democrats ever will act upon this hint, the campaign of 1908 will be full of time and enthusiasm, the country will profit by a struggle of well-matched giants; the Democratic party must make its strongest man on a platform, if it expects to headway against the ticket nominated at Chicago. Will the Chicago Convention weld together contending elements and unite the leadership of a strong, candidate? is now the question with which politicians are turning themselves.

The announcement of the resignation of John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, Democratic floor leader in the House, as minority leader, has held since the eighth Congress, has created comment in political circles. Williams' ability as a statesman and an orator is recognized by all parties and he has made a reputation as leader of the party.

Foraker, of Ohio, the administration's bitterest opponent in Republican ranks, was one of the first members of that party in Washington to announce his intention to support Secretary Taft, after the news of the nomination of him, and when he was informed of the nomination of Representative Sherman for the Presidency, said he thought it a happy choice. And this is the great secret of Republican strategy, said a prominent Democrat, the burial of personal animosities for the success of the party.

In some quarters it is assumed that Mr. Bryan's running mate will come from the east, and that local celebrities are being eyed for the Vice Presidency. One of those mentioned is of German extraction and the claim is made forth that if nominated he will draw the whole German-American vote to the ticket. However, this is a vote that does not think and is not able to bosses. Mr. Bryan's claim that he has been too busy in politics to be duped by the German vote, the Irish, the Italian, or that of any other nationality.

OFFICIAL DeSOTO PRIMARY RETURNS

	N. B. Broward	D. U. Fletcher	A. W. Gilchrist	J. N. C. Stockton	R. C. Dunn	W. K. Jackson	Cyril Baldwin	T. R. Starke	M. R. W. Albritton	J. F. Bates	James Carlton	D. S. Williams	A. J. Cordell	D. J. Farrabee
1 Ft. Green	8	11	26	0	4	4	3	20	12	8	14	11		
2 Wauchula	191	91	240	72	127	129	154	148	74	133	162	130		
3 Lily	40	7	19	32	11	28	29	20	31	16	16	33		
4 Pine Level	14	11	11	16	8	16	12	14	19	7				
5 Charlotte Harbor	18	48	69	2	14	34	66	5	35	13				
6 Grove City	14	1	4	12	12	3	14	1	13	2				
7 Punta Gorda	47	163	239	8	73	128	192	45	86	82				
8 Ft. Ogden	37	42	89	10	26	53	58	34	33	45				
9 Arcadia	186	329	381	172	91	404	176	374	335	167	256	282		
10 Crewsville	21	20	37	6	13	21	13	17	27	17				
11 Zolfo	40	40	63	28	11	75	48	45	32	44				
12 Venus	17	0	1	16	7	9	11	6	1	16				
13 Ft. Bassinger	0	3	0	3	0	1	3	0	3	0				
14 Avon Park	12	25	32	8	13	17	16	25	16	12				
15 Bowling Green	42	102	115	44	24	112	4	158	103	22			42	102
16 Gardner	48	12	32	34	32	27	54	12	33	25	25	39		
17 Nocatee	61	12	21	57	38	28	58	15	21	36	52	24		
18 Owens	25	26	38	16	15	24	25	26	22	29				
19 Cleveland	15	5	16	3	11	4	21	0	2	12				
20 Oak Hill	18	15	10	32	8	19	24	17	14	26				
21 Lake Stearns	0	11	8	5	7	1	2	10	5	4	12	1		
22 Horse Creek	11	6	10	8	4	5	9	10	8	9			10	9
23 Ona	21	13	30	18	6	28	24	23	16	25			20	24
24 Platt	5	10	12	4	8	5	6	10	2	12				
Totals	891	1003	1503	606	563	1175	1035	943	762	348	346	264	309	

Governor Broward's Defeat

Jacksonville, Fla., June 20, 1908.
EDITOR CHAMPION,
Arcadia, Fla.

I regret exceedingly to tell you that the principles for which we contended so patriotically and at such great sacrifice of time, and expenditure of mental force, have been temporarily defeated. I believe from the returns that Mr. Fletcher has received a greater number of votes than I have. But I have the consciousness of knowing that no one supported me for pay, for none received any, and I feel that the state is to be congratulated upon the very great proportion of her citizens who are actuated by such patriotism as to have made the many sacrifices that I know they have made in their devotion to what they deem to be the best interests of their country.

The following are some of the reasons which I assign for the result in the recent primary. As you will recall I was charged with making unwarranted compromises with several land companies and railroads, paying unwarranted attorney's fees, making a deal with the Standard Oil Company to get votes, using public funds to defray my campaign expenses, personal dishonesty, being unfriendly to the old soldiers' pensions, and I was even charged, orally, with holding up the execution of persons condemned to death; all of which were untrue, and made only for the purpose of mystifying the voter or prejudicing him against me. I frequently told the people from the stump that it would be necessary for them to possess the faculty of mind reading, to be able to tell what manner of man I am.

In addition to this, I came into the race after a large portion of the votes had become inclined to one or the other of the candidates, and who had pledged a second choice, and so on. But I propose as Governor to effectuate so much of good for the public that the fact that you supported me will be a pleasant recollection at least.

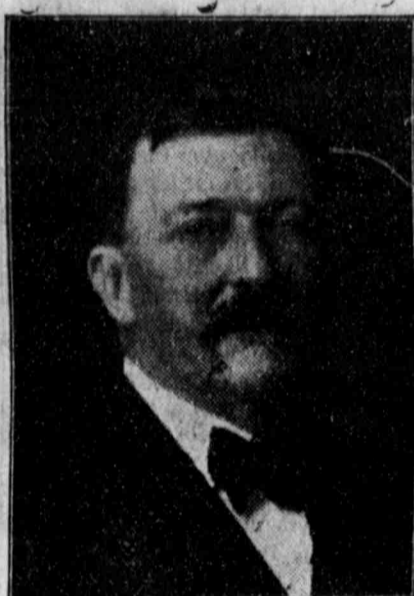
Again assuring you of my appreciation of your support, I beg to remain,

Yours sincerely,

N. B. BROWARD.

Plenty of rain these days.

THE GENTLEMAN from DeSOTO



ALBERT W. GILCHRIST
Democratic Nominee for Governor

Cyril Baldwin Grateful

To the Voters of DeSoto County:
I wish to express to my friends of DeSoto county my sincere appreciation for the support given me in the primary election just passed to the office of tax collector.

The official count shows Mr. Starke and I received the same number of votes. There will not be another primary held for the nomination of tax collector, the executive committee having ordered that both names should appear on the ticket in the general election. I again solicit your support.

Assuring you again of my hearty and grateful thanks for your support and trusting to continue to merit your confidence, I am,

Yours very truly,
Cyril Baldwin.

From J. N. C. Stockton

Jacksonville, Fla., June 18, '08.
To the People of Florida:

The Democratic primaries have been held and the result is my defeat for nomination for Governor. While the public service corporations and saloon people have triumphed temporarily, yet the ultimate victory of the great principles which I contended for is absolutely certain.

I made a clean, straightforward and equivocal campaign, making plain boldly, as was my duty, my position on the public questions now agitating the minds of the people. I have no apologies to

make. I bow to the will of the majority.

I became a candidate for governor at the request of many sincere friends, who have stood by me loyally in this contest. I am grateful not only to them, but to each and every one who supported and voted for me, both on May 19th and June 16th.

The primary system needs perfecting, and I urge you to consider the question and adopt such changes in the system as will most effectually eradicate unclean and dishonorable methods.

Our form of government demands of you, not only diligence, but unselfishness, and a realization of the duty of citizenship. The voters must be made to understand the ballot is a trust committed to them by government, and ought not to be made a case of barter and sale.

I urge my friends everywhere not to lose heart, but fight for right and justice, regardless of consequences.

"Who saves his country saves all things,
and all things saved bless him;
Who lets his country die lets all things
die, and all things dying curse him."

JOHN N. C. STOCKTON.

A Party

A party given in honor of James Morqus and Tom Mitchell was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Mitchell on last Friday night. The following were in attendance:

AmeLe Smith, Tom Mitchell, Ira Clark, Chesterfield Smith, Ruby Roberts, James Moqus, Zowella King, Paul Kinsey, Eleanor Gates, Bert Draughon, Mary Stewart, George Ford, Inez Clark, Bert Dowd, Sophy May Smith, Virgel Steele, Gerda Holmer, Stanley Myers, Otto Holmer, Harry Kirkpatrick, John Smith, Solon Anderson, Sam Smith, Walter Draughon, Jack Whidden, Frank Stonebraker, George Stonebraker, Oklie Lanier. Games of various kinds were played. Ice cream and cake were served.

Those who attended pronounced it a grand success.

The election to congress in the Third Congressional District seems to be in doubt. Friends of both candidates claim their man winner.

POLITICAL UTOPIA

OREGON AND HER NEW ELECTION LAWS

Oregon is fast getting a corner on the Utopia of politics. The millennium of the ballot may not be here, but it has reserved a berth and paid for it. Hereafter, if the law is enforced, it will cost a man anywhere from \$5 to \$100 to ask another man on election day to vote for any candidate or any measure—just to ask him, not to pay him or coerce him.

In their state election the other day the people put their sanction on such a measure, and they did a lot of other things that make one think the old days of the politician are passing. Hereafter it will be "political criminal libel," punishable by a penitentiary sentence, to lie in a newspaper or a circular or a poster about a candidate for office.

FORBIDDEN TO TREAT

Candidates are forbidden to treat, to bet on elections, directly or indirectly, to promise any political appointments; to employ workers, except challengers, on election day; to pay voters for time lost in going to the polls, or to give any voter a badge or button to wear on election day.

If a candidate pays a newspaper editor to print something nice about him, the matter so paid for must be marked as advertising. Likewise if the editor "boosts" a public measure for cash his columns must bear the legend of sale and purchase. The corrupt practices act which the people have approved further says:

"No person shall pay the owner, editor, publisher or agent of any newspaper or other periodical to induce him editorially to advocate or oppose any candidate for nomination or election, and no such owner, editor, publisher or agent shall accept such payment.

In the case of political criminal libel, which is a new crime created by law, both the man who writes or offers the libellous matter and the man who knowingly connives at its publication may be sent to the state prison. He has a defense if he can show that he had good ground for believing the libellous charge or statement was true, but even as a vital part of that defense he must prove that, fifteen days before the publication of the article, he submitted the charges to the candidate in question and that he did not receive any denial or answer to them within ten days after their submission.

STOP ELECTIONEERING

In the matter of electioneering the law is sweeping. It says in part:

"It shall be unlawful for any person at any place on the day of any election to ask, solicit or in any manner try to induce or persuade any voter on such election day to vote for or refrain from voting for any candidate, or the candidate or ticket of any political party or organization, or any measure submitted to the people."

For the man who chooses to obey the law it will not be an expensive matter to run for office in this state hereafter. A candidate for governor, for instance, will not be permitted to spend more than

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